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Date: November 4, 1996

By: Linda M. Fall
Linda M. Fall

Docket No. GCL266

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application:)
Fernando Valle et al.) Group Art Unit: 1814
Serial No.: 08/435,510) Examiner: R. Prouty
Filed: May 5, 1996)
For: Application of Glucose Transport Mutants for)
Production of Aromatic Pathway Compounds)

Request for Reconsideration

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
& Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

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GROUP 1800*

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 3, 1996, please amend the above-captioned application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-22 without prejudice and insert the following new claims:

--23. A mutant host cell useful for increasing PEP availability to enhance carbon flow into a metabolic pathway of said host cell wherein said metabolic pathway uses PEP as a precursor or intermediate, said host cell characterized by:

- (a) being phenotypically Pts-/glu+;
- (b) requiring galactose permease activity to transport glucose; and
- (c) having a specific growth rate on glucose as a sole carbon source of at least about $0.4h^{-1}$.